The United States Environmental Protection Agency
Waste Management Division - Region 4
Federal Facilities Branch

36879

13.9

FACT SHEET

Firestone Tire and Rubber Site, Albany Georgia

December 1999

Background

The site is located at 3300 Sylvester Road, approximately one mile east of the city limit of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia. The site was initially constructed in 1967 and was used for manufacturing tires as a Firestone Tire & Rubber Company (Firestone) facility from 1968 to 1986. From 1986, the site remained inactive until March 1990, when Cooper Tire purchased the facility and began renovations.

Prior to closing the facility in 1985, Firestone conducted a voluntary assessment of potential contamination at the site. From the assessment activities, two areas were identified for further study. The courtyard area of the site, located in the area between the manufacturing buildings, was the location of underground and aboveground storage tanks, power transformers, road and rail shipping and material handling operations. The burn pit area, located near the east drainage ditch and storm water retention pond, was the location of an anti-oxidant spill in 1980.

Highlights

- ROD signed June 23, 1993
- Data collected during the RI/FS or RD/RA indicates that contamination is well within the facility boundaries
- Final inspection of the groundwater extraction system was approved in July 1997
- The data from the most recent sampling event (September 1999) indicates that in general, the concentrations of the contaminants of concern are unchanged or decreasing since 1991. Data would tend to support the position that the current extraction is currently operating effectively.
- In accordance with the ROD, extracted groundwater is discharged directly to the POTW.
- The facility is currently being operated by Cooper Tire.

Following the initial assessment activities, Firestone conducted several voluntary interim remedial activities, including the following:

* Removal of underground storage tanks;
* Removal of most of the soil contaminated with Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs);
* Installation and operation of a groundwater extraction and treatment system;
* Performing additional groundwater monitoring

Approximately 441 cubic yards of rubbish and debris and 105 cubic yards of soil were transported to the Oxford Solid Waste Landfill located in Albany, Georgia. In addition PCB transformers were removed from the roofs and the inside of buildings; roof materials and concrete transformer pads were removed and placed in permitted facilities.

The site was proposed by EPA for the CERCLA National Priorities List (NPL) in June of 1988, and was included on the NPL in October 1989. Firestone entered into an Administrative Order by Consent (AOC) with EPA in 1990 to conduct an Remedial Investigation /Feasibility Study (RI/FS).

EPA'S Selected Remedial Action Alternative/The Record of Decision

After reviewing the results of the RI/FS, EPA issued a Record of Decision for the site on June 24, 1993. The selected remedy included the following components.

* Discharge of extracted groundwater after treatment to Local Waste Water Treatment System (Publicly Owned Treatment Works - POTW);
* Periodic groundwater monitoring;
* Institutional controls on well construction and water use at the site;
* Excavation and disposal of PCB-contaminated soils

In March of 1994, Firestone Tire & Rubber entered into a Judicial Consent Decree with EPA and the Department of Justice to implement a Remedial Design/Remedial Action at the site. Due to the complexities of the site, the remedial alternative was addressed in two phases. In November of 1994, approximately 25 cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris with concentrations of PCB greater than 10 ppm were excavated and transported to Chemical Waste Managements's Emelle, Alabama landfill in accordance with all Federal and State regulations. The soil remediation is documented in the December 14, 1994, Soil Remediation Report.

In 1995, Bridgestone Firestone conducted design activities for the purpose of preparing a Remedial Design Report to address the contaminated groundwater at the site. The cleanup levels for the primary contaminants of concern in the shallow groundwater in the courtyard area are as follows: Benzene 5 ug/l; 1,1,1-Trichloroethane (TCA) 200 ug/l; and 1,1-Dichloroethylene 7 ug/l. EPA and GDNR provided oversight of the remedial activities as planned, and no additional areas of contamination were identified . The RA activities were performed according to design specifications set forth in the 100% Remedial Design Report.

At the present time groundwater recovered by the system does not contain concentrations of contaminants of concern above the POTWs discharge limits (Benzene 20 ug/l; 1,1,1-Trichloroethane (TCA) 20 ug/l; and 1,1-Dichloroethylene 20 ug/l). Based on the historically decreasing concentrations, it is unlikely that the limits will be exceeded. As a result of an agreement made between the Albany Public Works Division and Bridgestone/Firestone, recovered groundwater is discharged directly to the POTW without any on-site treatment. In the event that any of the concentrations increase to the point where they do exceed the discharge limits, granular activated

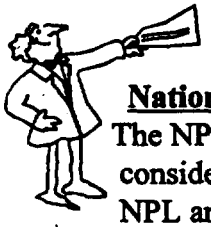
carbon units vessels will be added to the system in accordance with the RA plan to remove the contaminants prior to POTW discharge.

Remaining activities to be completed by the Bridgestone Firestone include periodic adjustments and /or modifications to the collection system to maintain optimum performance as well as demobilization of the system once the cleanup goals identified in the ROD, SOW and the Remedial Design, have been achieved.

Activities and Schedules for Site Completion

The RA activities that remain to be completed for the Firestone Tire and Rubber Site include preparing the Final Close Out Report. These activities are currently scheduled to be completed according to the following schedule.

Task	Estimated Completion	Responsible Organization Organization
Approve Final Closeout Report	09/30/03	EPA
Deletion From NPL	09/30/03	EPA



More Information...

National Priorities List (NPL):
The NPL is a federal regulatory program that identifies sites that require special consideration for cleanup. The federal regulations that define which sites should be on the NPL are part of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan, which prevents and controls spills into surface water and other parts of the environment, and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (see below for more information on CERCLA).

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA):
In 1980, CERCLA was passed by Congress to investigate and clean up sites representing a certain level of risk to human health or the environment, including sites on the NPL. In 1986, Congress passed the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) defining how federal facilities were to comply with CERCLA.

Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs):
The EPA has established a Technical Assistance Grant Program that will provide a grant, up to $50,000 per site, to a qualified citizen's group for up to a three-year period for the purpose of hiring a technical advisor. The intent of this program is to ensure individuals has the ability to obtain a complete and independent interpretation of site-related data to enable them to contribute to the decision-making process.